

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a network zone plan, comprising:
collecting device connectivity information for devices in a network;
performing an analysis on the collected information to infer relationships between the devices;
identifying policies to be utilized in generating a zone plan of the network, wherein said polices include granularity, type of storage device, and grouping, and wherein zones in said zone plan need not be equal in size;
generating the zone plan based on a combination of the analysis performed and the identified zoning policies, and
implementing said zone plan in a SAN.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the zone plan dictates which of the devices are visible to each other.
4. (Previously amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the devices include host systems to access data and storage subsystems which are providers of said data.
5. (Previously amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the zone plan is a network-layer access control mechanism which dictates which said storage subsystems are visible to which said hosts.
6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having instruction codes for providing autonomic zoning in a storage area network, comprising: a set of instruction codes for collecting device connectivity information for devices in a network; a set of instruction codes for performing an analysis on the collected information to infer relationships between the devices; a set of instruction codes for identifying policies to be utilized in generating a zone plan of the network, wherein said policies include granularity, type of storage device, and grouping, and wherein zones in said zone plan need not be equal in size; a set of instruction codes for generating the zone plan based on a combination of the analysis performed and the identified zoning policies; and, a set of instruction codes for implementing said zone plan in the storage area network.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) The computer program product of claim 7 wherein the zone plan dictates which of the devices are visible to each other.
10. (Previously amended) The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the devices include host systems to access data and storage subsystems which are providers of said data.
11. (Previously amended) The computer program product of claim 10 wherein the zone plan is a network-layer access control mechanism which dictates which said storage subsystems are visible to which said hosts.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)